



news release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PBS Western Reserve Secures Five Emmy Nominations

Kent, Ohio — May 10, 2024 — PBS Western Reserve has received five 2024 regional Emmy nominations from the Central Great Lakes Region of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. The organization's series *City Centric* received one nomination. *The Master Craftsman* and *The World According to Polka* — independent productions with broadcast premieres on PBS Western Reserve — each received two nominations. Award winners will be announced Saturday, June 22, at the Great Lakes Emmy Awards ceremony in Cleveland.

The productions, which are part of PBS Western Reserve's *LuminUS: Stories About Us* collection, tell these stories that are singularly focused on the Northeast Ohio region:

- *City Centric* is a six-part series that showcases dedicated and inspirational people from six cities in our region who shape their communities and explores how their communities have, in turn, shaped them. The program's producer, James Waters, was nominated in the Magazine Program category.
- *The Master Craftsman* is a 30-minute show that provides a close-up view of local artist Richard Grell, showcasing his exceptional woodworking abilities in handcrafting Windsor chairs. Phillip Sieb is the filmmaker and director, and Philip Leiter is the director of photography. The production was nominated in the Lifestyle and Photographer: Long Form Content categories.
- *The World According to Polka* is a six-part series that follows Ohio's zany Chardon Polka Band on a journey across Northeast Ohio and beyond as it explores the rich history and lively culture surrounding polka. The series is hosted by the band's lead singer, Jacob Kouwe, who was nominated for an award in the Host, Narrator category. Series co-creators Kouwe and Jeff Grau were nominated in the Entertainment category.

"We are excited and honored to receive these nominations, which confirm that PBS Western Reserve provides high-quality programming to our audience," said Ryan Donchess, PBS Western Reserve director of content.

“We share our excitement with the talented nominees of these shows and are proud to have partnered with them on the productions.” All three productions can be livestreamed at PBSWesternReserve.org.

About PBS Western Reserve

PBS Western Reserve is the brand name of Northeastern Educational Television of Ohio, Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. A trusted community resource, PBS Western Reserve uses the power of commercial-free television and related services to enrich the lives of people through high-quality programming and educational services that teach, illuminate and inspire. It serves the largest population of Ohio’s eight PBS member stations.

PBS Western Reserve (WNEO 45.1 / WEAO 49.1), a service of the organization, is the only broadcast television service that reaches all of Northeast Ohio. It is available to 4.9 million people in the Cleveland and Youngstown designated market areas. In an average month, more than 1 million people tune in. The organization also operates two standard definition channels: Fusion (WNEO 45.2 / WEAO 49.2) and FNX (WNEO 45.3 / WEAO 49.3).

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